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Urban District of Tredegar.



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTORS

FOR

THE YEAR 1942.

BENDLE, PRINTER, TREDEGAR.

Tredegar Urban District Council.

Chairman (1942)—Councillor A. L. Coombes, J.P.

Chairman (1942) Public Health and Housing Committee—
Councillor J. Bevan.

Clerk of the Council—J. Trevelyan Phillips, Solicitor.

MEMBERS.

WEST WARD.

Councillor G. H. Cecil
„ T. C. Davies
„ O. Jones
„ J. Stockton

GEORGETOWN WARD.

Councillor J. Bevan
„ D. W. Bowen
„ A. L. Coombes
„ T. J. Thomas

CENTRAL WARD.

Councillor William Allen
„ J. Travenen
„ W. A. B. Harvey
„ D. J. Jermine

SIRHOWY WARD.

Councillor A. E. Cooke
„ R. I. Davies
„ W. M. Clarke
„ Rev G. O. Roberts

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health (part time)—

E. T. H. Davies, M.D., M.S. (LOND.), F.R.C.S. (ENG.)

Senior Sanitary Inspector (whole time)—

C. G. Watkins, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

Certificated Sanitary Inspector, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1920.

Certificated Inspector of Meat and other Foods do. 1927.

Second Sanitary Inspector (whole time) —

E. Williams, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Certificated Sanitary Inspector, The Royal Sanitary Institute and
Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board, 1933.

Certificated Inspector of Meat and other Foods, The Royal Sanitary
Institute, 1934.

Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, 1936

Clerical Assistant (Temporary)—Mr. D. J. Turner.

Matron, Ashvale Isolation Hospital—

Miss A. E. W. Robjohns, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Member of the College of Nursing

Medical Officer's Report.

THE GROVE,

TREDEGAR,

NOVEMBER, 1943.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council
of Tredegar.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for the year 1942 (which has been drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 2773 [Wales] issued by the Welsh Board of Health) In accordance with the restrictions thus directed, the report is again much curtailed, and except for the facts and figures set out in the statistics given and the permitted Tables appended, contains little comment and elaboration.

Section A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area of the District—

Tredegar Parish	...	..	4,360 acres
Dukestown Parish	...	...	3,780 acres
			8,140 acres

Rateable Value of the district	...	...	£67,851
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Estimated product of a penny rate for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1943	...	...	£220
--	-----	-----	------

Total rates in the Pound for that year	...	...	21/2d.
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The natural and social conditions of the Area, fully described in earlier reports, altered little during the year. Coal mining is the staple industry of the district.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

Birth Rate.

			Total.		Males.		Females
Live Births {	Legitimate	...	395	...	201	...	194
	Illegitimate	...	8	...	4	...	4
			403		205		198

Producing a birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population of **19'45.**

1941 ... 17'99 1940 ... 16'39 1939 .. 16'63

			Total.		Males.		Females.	
Still Births	{	Legitimate	...	16	...	11	...	5
		Illegitimate	...	1	...	1	...	—
			17		12		5	

A rate of 0'82 per 1,000 population as against 1'1 for 1941.

This rate calculated per 1,000 Total (live and still) births—

1942	...	...	40'47
1941	...	...	53'14
1940	...	..	36'62
1939	...	...	57'69
1938	...	...	54'54

Death Rate.

The number of deaths during the year 1942 [after correction for inward and outward transfers, as furnished by the Registrar General] was—

Total	Males	Females
276	156	120

A death rate per 1,000 population of **13'32.**

1941	...	12'26	1914	...	17'90
1940	...	13'32	1901	...	19'93

Maternal Death Rate.

There were no deaths recorded under this heading for the district during the whole year 1942.

The figures given for England and Wales and also the County, per 1,000 total births (live and still) for the same period are :—

	Puerperal Infection.	Others.	Total.
England and Wales ...	0·42	1·59	2·01
County ...	0·49	1·32	1·81

For 1941 the figures for the Tredegar Urban Area were shown to be almost double those for the County, and nearing four times those for England and Wales.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

	Total.	Males.	Females
Legitimate ...	23	12	11
Illegitimate ...	2	2	—
	25	14	11

A rate per 1,000 live births of **62·03** (as compared with—

1941 ...	74·88	1940 ...	74·38)
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The rate of legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births works out at 58·23, or a ratio of approximately 1 in 18.

The rate of illegitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births was 250 or a ratio of 1 in 4.

There were no deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age. The rate of deaths per 1,000 live births from this cause for England and Wales is given at 5·2.

	BIRTH RATE.		DEATH RATE.	
	Live Births per 1,000 population	Still Births per 1,000 population	All Ages per 1,000 population	Under 1 yr. per 1,000 live births
England and Wales..	15·8	0·54	11·6	49
Monmouthshire ...	18·4	0·75	11·8	53·06
Tredegar U.D.	19·45	0·82	13·32	62·03

Taking into consideration the full circumstances of your Area, its altitude, climatic conditions, housing shortage, etc., and especially having regard to the fact that the Report concerns a period running into the fourth year of War, it can, I think, be rightly said that on the whole the vital statistics reveal a very satisfactory state of affairs, and Tredegar's bill of health for 1942 compares favourably in most respects to the national well-being as evidenced by the figures published for the Country as a whole. Again there was no unusual or excessive mortality from any cause during the year, neither was the District visited by any widespread epidemic disease.

The birth rate again shows a substantial rise, whereas infant mortality, although above that for both the Country and the County is a decided drop in comparison to the previous years figures.

The remarkable achievement of a maternal death rate of nil, particularly in face of previous adverse comparative recordings in this direction, together with the absence of any fatal results from measles, whooping cough, diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), scarlet fever, cerebro-spinal fever and influenza is a feature for much satisfaction and is in itself a compliment to the vigilance displayed by the responsible health services of both the County and district.

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

To facilitate reference, particulars in this matter are incorporated at the beginning of the report. Duties in connection with Civil Defence and kindred health matters, naturally took up much of the time of the department. Mr. Trevor Parry, clerical assistant, left in July of the year to join his unit as a volunteer to the Royal Air Force.

Laboratory Facilities, Ambulance Facilities, Nursing in the Home, Treatment Centres and Clinics, Hospitals, etc.

There was little change or development in the services provided under these headings during the year, and were therefore practically similar to the descriptions given in earlier reports.

The number of journeys made during the year by your Motor Ambulance was 324, covering a total mileage of 4,327 miles.

IN APPRECIATION.

Both the Council and the Officers sustained the loss of several of their colleagues during the year. First, the resignation of Councillor Lewis Evans, occasioned by his departure to reside in another part of the country, and later the death of Councillor A. E. Cooke, each of whom had held the office of Chairman of the Council. By the passing of Mr. W. H. Newman, the Council's Deputy Clerk, in June of the year, the Council were deprived the energetic services of a very promising young man who had proved his worth and capabilities during the period that the Clerk was absent on active service. This was followed on December 1st by the further shock in the sad news that the Clerk of the Council had died in a Cardiff Nursing Home following an operation. The name of the late Lt. Col J. Trevelyan Phillips, Solicitor, Clerk of the Council since 1922, was highly respected not only within, but also far beyond the confines of the district. The thoroughness with which he at all times conducted his official duties, yet his courteous, kindly and tactful manner coupled with the wisdom of his practical guidance and helpfulness shown to both members of the Council and also his fellow officers, will long retain its imprint and will reflect itself to the lasting good of his native Tredegar, the town and people who reciprocated in the love he had for them.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The supply has been abundant throughout the year. The total quantity of water drawn during the year amounted to 395,843,225 gallons, of which 136,253,500 gallons were delivered in bulk to the Bedwellty Urban District, and 572,989 gallons to Rhymney Urban District.

The Sirhowy and Dukestown portion of the Urban Area was, as hitherto, supplied by the Ebbw Vale U.D. Council.

Waterworks Capacity.

Georgetown—

Storage Reservoir	...	14,000,000 gallons.
Service Reservoir	...	1,500,000 gallons.
Filter Beds	...	350,000 gallons.

Nantybwhch—

Storage Reservoir	..	50,000,000 gallons.
Filtration Works	...	1,500,000 gallons.

Trevil—

High Level Service		
Reservoir		150,000 gallons.

Rainfall.

The rainfall is that recorded at "Redesdale" by Mr. D. Walter Davies, M Inst. Gas E., the Council's Gas and Water Engineer and Manager, at an elevation of 963 feet above ordnance datum.

1942	inches.	1942	inches
January	6'15	July	3'76
February	'82	August	7'14
March	4'88	September	4'25
April	3'76	October	4'83
May	9'92	November	'97
June	'44	December	9'61
			56'53

There were 206 rain days and the greatest fall recorded was 2'35 inches on December 10th.

Previous yearly records taken at the same place are :—

1941	...	51'88	1926	...	52'86
1940	...	57'36	1925	...	57'02
1939	...	69'89	1924	...	65'67
1938	...	57'47	1923	...	60'73
1937	...	52'56	1922	...	45'82
1936	...	64'20	1921	...	27'49
1935	...	60'52	1920	...	51'70
1934	...	57'36	1919	...	40'80
1933	...	42'59	1918	...	50'44
1932	...	49'39	1917	...	41'95
1931	...	56'79	1916	...	47'01
1930	...	63'21	1915	...	44'17
1929	...	54'83	1914	...	56'87
1928	...	59'08	1913	...	61'09
1927	...	62'86			

Shewing an average fall of 53'92 inches.

The average rainfall for 26 years (1881-1907) recorded at 'The Willows,' by the late Dr. G. A. Brown, at an elevation of 1,024 feet above ordnance datum, was 58'70 inches.

Water Samples.

A number of samples of drinking water were submitted for examination to the County Pathologist at various periods of the year, with results which, excepting in one instance, were satisfactory, as stated below—

	Number	Results
(a) CHEMICAL EXAMINATION —		
Tredegar U.D.C.'s Supply Waterworks	1	Satisfactory
" " " drawn from house taps with direct service from mains	2	"
Ebbw Vale U.D.C.'s supply (as supplied to portion of Tredegar Area) drawn from house taps with direct service from mains	2	"
(b) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION—		
Tredegar U.D.C.'s Supply Waterworks	4	"
" " " drawn from house taps with direct service from mains	10	" (excepting one sample)
Ebbw Vale U.D.C.'s supply (as supplied to portion of Tredegar Area) drawn from house taps with direct service from mains	4	Satisfactory
From Dip Well	1	"
TOTAL	24	

In collaboration with Mr. D. W. Davies, Engineer and Manager to the Council's Water undertaking, 16 water samples were also taken from other potential sources of supply at various points of the district and submitted for examination in connection with emergency measures.

Council's Open-Air Swimming Pool.

Amongst the many forms of recreation and healthy exercise provided for within the precincts of Bedwellty Park, none continues to be more popular and beneficial, especially to the younger generation, than the "Baths." This is reflected in the figures given for the 1942 season.

Number of Adult Swimmers	...	...	2,462
„ Youth „	...	...	853
„ Child Swimmers	...	...	23,196
„ Elementary School Children	...	...	3,198
„ Secondary „	...	...	474
„ L.C.C. „	...	...	1,037
„ Spectators	...	...	3,516

Satisfactory results were obtained to samples of the bath water submitted to the County Pathologist for examination.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically the whole of the district is well provided with stoneware subsidiary sewers, which are linked up to the main sewer laid along the river bed. The Western Valleys (Mon.) Sewerage Board (of which the Council form a constituent authority) have control of the trunk sewers.

The cleansing and repair of choked or detective drainage systems, both public and private, is pressed for immediately upon report or discovery.

Rivers and Streams.

The river Howy, with a number of small tributaries, traverses the length of the district. Every vigilance is exercised to prevent the dumping of refuse along the banks.

Closet Accommodation.

The water carriage system is almost universal throughout the area. An estimate of the number of each type of closet is as follows—

(a)	Number of pail or privy closets (including several of the chemical type) to isolated farms, cottages and other premises where there is no sewer available	...	...	51
(b)	Number of closets with fixed receptacles	...	...	10
(c)	„ „ „ movable „	...	...	5
(d)	„ water-closets (with flushing apparatus)	...	2,782	
(e)	„ „ (hand flushed)	...	2,368	

Public Cleansing.

This important branch of the Public Health Services was well maintained throughout the year.

The equivalent rate in the £ for these services, for the financial year ended 31st March, 1943, was:—

House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	1/6½d.
Street Cleansing		6½d.

The approximate quantities of materials collected and disposed of under the Council's "Salvage Scheme" (inaugurated towards the end of July, 1940) were—

	During the Year 1942			Total since commencement of Scheme		
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.
Waste Paper and Cardboard	157	7	3	331	10	2
Metals	... 16	15	2	114	3	3
Flattened and unflattened Tins	... 30	11	0	30	11	0
Textiles	... 2	6	1	3	9	3
Bottles and Jars	... 5	7	3	5	18	2
Bones	... 3	3	3	4	9	1
Rubber	... 3	2	0	3	2	0
		—	—	—	—	—
Total	... 218	14	0	493	4	3

Roads.

The mileage of roads in the area is as follows:—

Classified—

Class 1—A	465	..	...	2.52 miles
A	4048	...	...	4.01 „
Class 2—B	4256	...	...	1.36 „
				7.89
Unclassified roads taken over		...	...	32.61 „
				40.5

The number of street gullies in the district is estimated at about 1,500.

*Sanitary Inspection of the Area.***WATER CLOSETS—**

Pail-closets converted into water-closets	...	...	NIL
New stone or brick water-closets erected	...	8	}
Indoor water-closets provided	...	3	
Existing closets on old culverts, etc., drained and diverted to sewer	...		5
Closet drains relaid	...	...	6
Closet buildings renovated	...	...	35
New pans to water-closets fixed—pedestal type	...	62	}
hopper type	...	2	
Foul water-closets cleansed	...	...	199
Flush tanks and water supply to water-closets installed	...	...	28
Flush tanks and water supply to water-closets repaired	...	...	99

HOUSEDRAINS—

New stoneware housedrains provided	...	...	36
Housedrains relaid	...	...	3
Choked housedrains cleansed	...	...	327
New stoneware gully-traps fixed to house-drains	...	...	38
Housedrains connected to sewers	...	...	12
Defective drainage system remodelled (including the provision of inspection chambers and ventilating shafts)	..	...	14

URINALS—

New urinals constructed	..	...	1
Urinals repaired	...	...	2

HOUSING DEFECTS—

Eaves, troughing and downpipes provided or renewed	...	...	50
Eaves, troughing and downpipes repaired	...	...	29
Roofs stripped and reslated	...	...	—
Roofs repaired	...	...	45
Window frames and sashes repaired or renewed	...	...	25
Firegrates and ovens repaired or renewed	...	...	12
General repairs to houses carried out	...	...	48
Yards repaved or concreted	...	...	13
Internal floor pavements relaid	...	...	16

VARIOUS OTHER NUISANCES ABATED	...	...	86
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NOTICES SERVED—

Informal	...	...	194
Statutory	...	...	43

(Results contained in headings above)

INSPECTIONS AND REVISITS—

Common Lodging Houses	...	...	92
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	53
Slaughter-houses	...	...	805
Shops, Stalls, etc.	...	...	271
Pigstyes, Stables, Chicken Cots, etc.	...	...	42
Factories and Workplaces (including Bakehouses)	..	...	141
Housedrains and Water-closets	...	...	615
Housing Inspections	...	...	462
Infectious Diseases (investigation and disinfections) ...	...	...	262
Various other inspections (including verminous infestations)	...	...	641
			3,384

Registered Buildings and Trades.

The respective number of registered premises within the area at the end of 1942 were as follows :—

Common Lodging-houses	...	...	2
Slaughter-houses	...	...	2
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	39
Milkshops	..	...	8
Bakehouses	...	...	18
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	74

It will be seen by the number of visits quoted that these places have been kept under regular supervision.

Section D.

Housing.

As can be well imagined and anticipated, there were no new houses erected within the district throughout 1942. The increase in the number of marriages during recent years, coupled with the decided rise in the birth rate, has naturally intensified the ever acute housing shortage formerly existing. Many of these war-time marriages are cases where either the husband or wife, or maybe both husband and wife are serving in the Forces or on National Service and have not as yet set up a home together. In many instances they are forced by circumstances to continue to live at home or to go into apartments.

The Post War demand to meet the housing needs of these young people, together with the urgent necessity of plans and schemes for dealing with families at present inadequately housed are matters for early consideration, apart from the resumption of Slum Clearance, redevelopment and raising the general standard of housing in the district, in keeping with the aims and ideals, which all Local Authorities, Welfare Societies and Organisations are looking forward to under a National Policy of Post War Planning and Reconstruction.

Again, great difficulty was experienced in coping with complaints of housing disrepair and the abatement of nuisances, owing chiefly to the scarcity of labour and materials, even after the taking of proceedings in the local Police Court, following the non-compliance with Statutory Notices. The Central Government Department concerned have been fully cognisant of and sympathetic towards easing the difficulties in this direction.

Two Certificates were issued under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts 1920-1938.

Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

Throughout the year every endeavour was constantly made to ensure a clean and safe milk supply for the district. As indicated by the tabulated statement below, it is evident that despite every vigilance, wartime difficulties arose in respect to labour and transport, materially affecting the bacteriological standard of our milk supply.

GRADED MILK SAMPLES—

Grade.	Number of samples which		Total
	satisfied Test.	Did not satisfy Test	
Pasteurised ...	6	4	10

(No application was received for a Trader's Licence for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk).

ROUTINE MILK SAMPLES—

	Local Producers	Producers outside the district	Total.
Number of samples reported upon as conforming to a satisfactory bacteriological standard ...	11	...	11
Number of samples reported upon as bacteriologically unsatisfactory ...	8	4	12
	19	4	23

B. Typhosus, B. Diphtheriæ and B. Tuberculosis was not, however, detected in any of the above samples.

Meat and other Foods Inspection.

Systematic inspection of the food supply of the district was carried out throughout the year, and all the attention possible given to this very necessary duty.

GOVERNMENT SCHEME OF FOOD CONTROL (CENTRALISED SLAUGHTERING)
AND MEAT DISTRIBUTION FOR THE YEAR 1942.

Number of animals killed for human consumption at the Government Controlled Slaughter-house, Tredegar—

Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Calves.	Total.
1,739	121	21,014	335	23,209

(As against a total of 30,245 animals for 1941)

Number of ready-dressed (English) carcasses received and distributed—

Beef.	Pork	Mutton.	Veal	Total.
44	1	1,072	85	1,202

Number of Pigs killed for human consumption by local Pig keepers—**135**

IMPORTED MEAT received and distributed—

		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef	...	469	12	1	0
Mutton and Lamb		548	4	3	10
Pork	...	67	4	1	11
Corned Beef	...	52	1	2	4
Corned Pork	...	10	2	2	16
Offal	...	48	11	1	17
Total	...	1,195	17	0	2

LICENCES—

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

New licences issued covering year 1942	...	NIL
Renewal of licences	„ „ „	... 21

The following is a list of meat and other articles of food found on examination to be unfit for human consumption. Where possible and under guarantee, these were salvaged for industrial or animal feeding purposes, and the remainder destroyed—

MEAT--	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Number of whole Carcases included
Beef ...	3	7	3	19	16
Pork ...		4	0	19	6
Mutton ...		9	0	14	37
Lamb ...				15	—
Veal ...				20	1
Offal ...	1	17	0	0	—
	<u>5</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>60</u>
87½ lbs. Bacon					
29 lbs. Ham					
12 lbs. Ox Tongue					
78 lbs. Corned Beef					
140 lbs. Pork Luncheon					
299½ lbs. Sausage					
70 lbs. Rabbit					
308 lbs. Fish					
1024 lbs.		9	0	16	
Fruit			2	19	
OTHER FOODS—					
Canned Foods—					
788 containers					
Bottled Preserves—					
619 containers					
Approx. 1407 lbs.		12	2	7	
Miscellaneous		4	0	2	
Total approximate weight	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>19</u>	

As against over 17 tons for the previous year.

Section F.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Brief Review.

NOTIFICATIONS.—A comparison of the rates per 1,000 population of notifications received for the year 1942, together with the figures for 1941, is as follows:

	England and Wales.		Tredegar Urban Area	
	(1941)	1942	(1941)	1942
Smallpox	—	(0·00)	(—)	—
Scarlet Fever	(1·47)	2·19	(0·51)	1·59
Diphtheria	(1·25)	1·05	(2·98)	3·95
Erysipelas	(0·30)	0·30	(1·24)	0·72
Pneumonia	(1·25)	1·07	(2·61)	2·55
Typhoid Fever	(0·03)	0·01	(—)	0·09
Paratyphoid Fever	(0·09)	0·01	(—)	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	(0·25)	0·14	(0·64)	0·14
Whooping Cough	(4·39)	1·73	(8·68)	1·40
Measles	(10·33)	7·46	(15·01)	1·97

It will be seen that the district was free throughout the year from Smallpox and Paratyphoid Fever, though there were two cases of Enteric Fever one of which (an adult male) ended fatally. The remarkable drop recorded for the previous year in the incidence of scarlet fever, though not maintained at that level, was well below the figure quoted for England and Wales. This disease, hitherto characterised as endemic to the district, was of a mild type and there were no deaths. The case rate for Cerebro-spinal Fever was similar to the figure given for England and Wales and was less than a quarter of that for 1941. The most pleasing feature, however, in this disease, was the comparison in fatality, namely 1941, 3 deaths. 1942, no deaths.

The very marked drop in the number of Whooping Cough and Measles notifications received is noted as highly satisfactory, and again no child died from these causes.

Diphtheria notifications were still above the average for the Country, but very many of the cases admitted to hospital were of a very mild nature, or sent in for observation only. Moreover, the disease was responsible for two deaths.

In the matter of immunisation against diphtheria, regular sessions for this purpose were held throughout the year. Much propaganda work was carried out and the campaign greatly intensified, the year ending with a very considerable

increase in the percentage of immunised child population of the district. Nevertheless, much remained to be done to reach the desired objective so strongly advocated by the Ministry of Health.

The number of children completing immunisation treatment during the year was.—

Under 5 years of age	...	436	(as compared with 186 for 1941)
5 to 15	„	1,066	(as compared with 231 for 1941)
Total		1,502	(as compared with 417 for 1941)

Upon the occurrence of infectious disease, Notices of Exclusions and later Re-admission of all cases and contacts are transmitted to the Headteacher of the school attended. During 1942 the number of school children in respect to whom such notices were sent (cases and contacts) were.—

	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Others	Total
Exclusions	... 138	29	15	NIL	182
Re-admissions	... 137	30	15	NIL	182

Classification of the deaths from Cancer according to the localisation of disease:—

		Male	Female
B.Cav. and Oesophagus	...	2	—
Uterus	...	—	3
Stomach and Duodenum	...	7	2
Breast	...	—	4
All other sites	...	6	5
		15	14

There were no deaths from Influenza during the year.

Deaths from Heart Disease (Males 30, Females 30) amounted to nearly 22% of the total deaths of the year.

Isolation Hospital Facilities.

It can be repeated that the requirements of the district have been amply served, and assistance rendered to neighbouring areas in this direction, at the Council's Ashvale Isolation Hospital, where much good work continues to be accomplished by a competent and qualified staff under the direction of the Matron (Miss A. E. W. Robjohns).

Particulars of the number of patients [including observation cases] treated at the Hospital during 1942 are:—

	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Typhoid Fever	T.B. Menin- gitis	Total
ADMISSIONS:—						
Tredegar Area	106	3	5	2	1	117
Evacuees	3	...	...	...	...	3
Outside Areas	17	1	4	...	...	22
	126	4	9	2	1	142
DEATHS:—						
Tredegar Area	2	...	...	1	1	4
Outside Areas	...	...	1	...	...	1
	2	...	1	1	1	5

The number of throat and nasal swabs (apart from other specimens such as blood, faeces and urine) sent for examination from the Hospital during the year, in which work as in other directions, the kind co-operation of the County Medical Officer and his staff has to be acknowledged, was:—

	(K.L.B.) Diphtheria	(Meningococcus) Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Total
Positive	...	223	223
Negative	...	809	817
Suspicious	...	14	16
No Growth	...	15	15
	1,061	10	1,071

Industrial Diseases. Particulars as to Diseases under this heading notified for the district for 1942 and three earlier years [kindly supplied by Dr. T. R. Sutherland] are :—

		1939	1940	1941	1942
Miners' Nystagmus	..	3	4	15	17
Beat Hand	..	1	1	4	1
Beat Elbow	..	2	6	4	4
Beat Knee	...	19	6	14	14
Dermatitis (due to dust or liquids)		1	5	2	2
Tenosynovitis of Wrist	..	2	3	4	1
		<u>28</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>39</u>

Tuberculosis.

The figures relating to new cases and mortality during 1942, arranged according to age groups, will be found in Table IX. at the end of the report. Reference to the totals given below, together with those for several previous years will be useful for the purpose of comparison.

YEAR	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Respiratory	Non Respiratory	Respiratory	Non Respiratory
1942	22	9	14	3
1941	30	13	9	2
1940	22	10	8	2
1939	31	6	16	1
1938	15	22	6	6
1937	36	12	13	3
1936	32	19	10	9
1935	16	8	19	3

The ratio per 1,000 resident population is as follows—

			1940	1941	1942
New cases (all forms)	...	...	1.53	1.97	1.49
Deaths (all forms)	...	...	0.48	0.50	0.82

The ratio of Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 deaths (all causes) is—

			1940	1941	1942
Pulmonary	...	...	28'77	33'70	50'7
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	7'19	7'49	10'9
All forms	...	...	35'97	41'19	61'6

Deaths from Tuberculosis (all forms) for 1942) were higher than for several of the previous years.

The state of the Tuberculosis register at the commencement and at the close of 1942 was as follows—

Date	Males		Females		Totals
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1st Jan., 1942 ...	79	69	82	46	274
31st Dec., 1942 ...	76	68	75	45	264

This gives a ratio of notified cases per 1,000 population at the end of the year of 12'74.

Total number of notifications of admissions to [Form I] and discharges from [Form II] Institutions during 1942 were :

		MALES		FEMALES	
		Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
Admissions	...	11	2	8	1
Discharges	...	10	5	12	1

There was one non-notified tuberculosis death, a ratio of 5'9% of tuberculosis deaths.

Number of cases added to the Register and brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification 1. (Male—pulmonary).

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

It was found necessary for the Council to arrange for the destruction of soiled bedding in certain cases, and compensate accordingly.

The following report has kindly been supplied by Dr. E. Aslett, Tuberculosis Physician, West Monmouthshire Area, The King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association :—

Tredegar Tuberculosis Clinic.

Report for the year ended December, 31st, 1942.

Total number of new cases examined at the Clinic during the year	...	...	...	419
Number of cases diagnosed as—				
(A) Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	15	}	20
(B) Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	5		
Total number of attendances at the Clinic	...	...	1255	
Number of patients treated in Hospitals	...	...	19	
Number of patients treated in Sanatoria	...	...	9	

I conclude my report by once again expressing my appreciation of the continued and willing support of the Council and the services rendered the Department by the Officers and all members of the Staff throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

EDWIN T. H. DAVIES,

M.D., M.S. (LOND.) F.R.C.S. (ENG.)

Medical Officer of Health.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1942.
(Other than Tuberculosis)

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.												
	AGE GROUPS (Years)												
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total at all Ages
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	1	3	3	3	4	12	5	1	1	...	...	...	33
Diphtheria	1	1	4	7	7	30	18	8	6	...	...	...	82
Pneumonia	2	2	...	1	2	5	3	5	11	9	11	2	53
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	9	3	15
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	17	4	...	...	24
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
Measles	14	16	12	18	28	51	1	...	1	...	...	...	141
Whooping Cough	3	4	2	8	9	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	29
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
TOTALS	23	26	21	38	50	101	28	19	38	16	20	5	385

TABLE II

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Incidence during each month of the year 1942.

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Enteric Fever	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	4	1	5	3	1	...	4	4	2	4	3	2	33
Diphtheria	6	3	5	11	4	8	2	4	7	18	6	8	82
Pneumonia	9	3	10	3	3	2	6	2	2	3	8	2	53
Erysipelas	...	2	1	1	2	...	..	1	4	2	2	...	15
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	...	2	2	.	2	...	3	5	2	2	4	24
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Measles	...	...	...	1	...	4	20	68	21	1	1	25	141
Whooping Cough	1	2	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	2	5	19	29
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	2
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTALS	24	11	26	21	10	17	32	83	42	32	27	60	385

TABLE III.
Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 1942.

(Allocation to different parts of the District)

DISTRICT	Enceph- alitis Leth- argica	Tuber- culosis new cases	Scarlet fever	Diph- theria	Pneu- monia	Puer- peral Pyrexia	Erysip- elas	Typhoid	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Measles	Whoop- ing Cough	Ophth- almia Neona- torum	Total
Georgetown	...	1	3	9	10	17	3	1	1	19	6	2	83
Lower Area (Town)	...	1	2	4	8	...	1	...	...	16	8	...	40
Bedwelty Pits	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
Troedrhiwgwair	...	...	...	1	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
Central (Town)	...	6	10	28	6	2	5	1	...	30	...	...	88
West (Town)	...	5	7	15	9	2	2	...	...	34	2	...	76
Ashvale (including Charles Street)	...	4	4	14	15	2	4	...	2	22	7	...	74
Tafarnaubach	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Trevil and Nantybwh	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sewrfa and Dukestown	...	...	5	3	2	...	...	...	...	11	2	...	23
Sirhowy	...	3	1	6	3	1	...	...	...	7	4	...	25
	1	31	33	82	53	24	15	2	3	141	29	2	416

TABLE IV.

Analysis of Deaths from Notifiable Diseases, 1942.

(Other than Tuberculosis).

DISEASE.	DEATHS, AGE GROUPS.											
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65 over	Total all Ages
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	9
TOTALS	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	12 34

TABLE V.
Vital Statistics of whole District, 1928-1942

Name of District—TREDEGAR.

Year	Births.		Nett deaths belonging to the district.			
	Num- ber.	Rate	Under One Year		At all Ages	
			Num- ber	Rate 1000 net Births	Num- ber	Rate
1928	472	19'31	25	52'96	275	11'17
1929	450	18'12	28	62'2	272	11'11
1930	437	17'99	28	64'53	252	10'37
1931	473	20'23	45	95'13	275	11'76
1932	451	19'60	36	79'82	252	10'95
1933	366	16'14	32	87'43	260	11'46
1934	379	16'9	20	52'77	272	12'13
1935	355	16'04	23	64'78	248	11'21
1936	362	16'62	18	49'72	277	12'71
1937	338	15'99	25	73'96	252	11'92
1938	312	14'94	18	57'69	257	12'3
1939	343	16'63	14	40'00	242	11'74
1940	342	16'39	27	74'38	278	13'32
1941	392	17'99	31	74'88	267	12'26
1942	403	19'45	25	62'03	276	13'32

TABLE VI.

Causes of Death (Registrar General's Returns)

1941		1942		
M	F	CAUSES OF DEATH	M.	F
156	111	ALL CAUSES ...	156	120
...	...	Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	1	...
1	2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...
...	...	Scarlet Fever	...	...
...	...	Whooping Cough	...	...
...	...	Diphtheria	1	1
5	4	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5	9
2	...	Other forms of tuberculosis	1	2
1	1	Syphilitic diseases	...	2
5	4	Influenza	...	...
...	...	Measles	...	...
...	1	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...
20	14	Cancer	15	14
...	3	Diabetes	1	3
...	...	Cerebral hæmorrhage,	...	...
10	11	(Intra cran : vasc ; Lesions)	19	12
36	26	Heart disease	30	30
5	...	Other diseases of circulating system	5	2
18	10	Bronchitis	21	12
6	8	Pneumonia	5	4
1	...	Other respiratory diseases	1	3
1	...	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	...
1	...	Diarrhœa [under 2 years]	...	...
...	...	Appendicitis	...	...
3	3	Other digestive diseases	5	5
4	7	Nephritis	3	1
...	1	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	...	...
...	2	Other maternal causes	...	...
4	1	Premature birth	1	4
...	...	Congenital malformation	...	...
4	4	Birth injury, infantile diseases	6	3
...	...	Suicide	1	...
4	1	Road Traffic accidents	1	...
11	1	Other violent causes	14	2
14	7	All other causes	17	11

TABLE VII.

Infantile Mortality—1942.

	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	2-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Congenital Malformation Premature Birth ... Debility and Marasmus	6	3	2	...	11	1	1	1	...	14
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
Convulsions ...	1	2	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	4
Meningitis ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	..	...	...	3
Congenital Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	7	6	2	...	15	6	2	2	...	25

TABLE VIII.
Infantile Mortality (Allocation to Wards) 1942.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Georgetown	M 2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6
	... F ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	3
Central	M ...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
	... F ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sirhowy	M ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	... F ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	4
West	M 1	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	6
	... F ...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4
Totals	M 3	2	1	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	14
	... F ...	1	...	...	3	...	...	1	4	1	...	1	11
Totals	3	3	1	3	4	...	1	1	4	1	1	3	25

TABLE IX

*Tuberculosis.**New Cases and Mortality during 1942.*

(according to Age Groups)

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
15	3	9	—	1	2	5	—	1
25	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—
35	3	2	1	—	1	2	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
55	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	10	12	5	4	5	9	1	2

TABLE X.

Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population, 1942

	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet fever	Whooping cough	Diphtheria	Influenza
England and Wales ...	11.6	0.00	...	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.09
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	13.3	0.00	..	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.06	0.09
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations of 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931) ...	12.1	0.00	...	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.04	0.10
London Administrative County ..	13.9	0.00	...	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.07
Tredegar Urban District	13.32	0.04	..	...	...	...	0.09	...

